

12.14.99  
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Washington, D.C. 20231

DOCKET NUMBER: BO9-99-013  
December 14, 1999

12/14/99  
jc511  
09/461521  
12/14/99

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jc511 U.S. PTO  
09/461521  
12/14/99

Transmitted herewith for filing is the Patent Application of:

Inventor(s): Reinhard H. Hohensee, Dwight R. Palmer and Nenad Rijavec

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MULTIFORMAT STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL

Enclosed are:

- Patent Specification and Declaration  
 3 sheets of drawing(s).  
 An assignment of the invention to International Business Machines Corporation (includes Recordation Form Cover Sheet).  
 A certified copy of a   application.  
 Information Disclosure Statement, PTO 1449 and copies of references.

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

For	Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate	Fee
<u>Basic Fee</u>				\$760.00
Total Claims	15 - 20	0	x 18 =	\$ .00
Indep. Claims	3 - 3	0	x 78 =	\$ .00
<u>MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED</u>				x 260 = \$
				TOTAL \$760.00

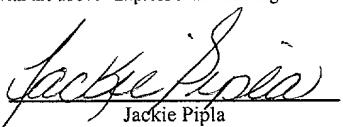
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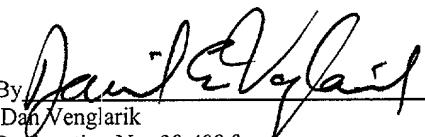
"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL139166967US

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Jackie Pipla

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Dan Venglak  
Registration No. 39,409 for  
FELSMAN, BRADLEY, VADEN,  
GUNTER & DILLON, LLP  
201 Main Street, Suite 1600  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102  
Telephone (817) 332-8143

**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MULTIFORMAT PRESENTATION****BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION****1. Technical Field:**

5        The present invention relates in general to data processing systems and in particular to stored documents within data processing systems. More particularly, the present invention relates presentation of stored documents to various output peripherals of the data processing system.  
10      Even more particularly the present invention relates to efficiency in document presentation to the output peripherals.

**2. Description of the Related Art:**

15      Presentation of stored data within a data processing system may take the form of pixels on a display or dots printed by a printer. Each output mechanism has different requirements for presentation. Each mechanism typically requires different presentation parameters, such as the color space and resolution. For example a screen will commonly require 24 bit RGB data at 72 DPI, while a printer might require 32 bit CMYK data at 600 DPI.

20      "Tiles" are utilized to break objects or data into multiformat units and use various tile encoding schemes based on the data within a tile (e.g., line art image compressed with G4 coding but a contone image compressed with JPEG). Some systems have also used tiles to describe each object on a page using, at most, one tile per object. Usually the tiles do not overlap, but some systems allow the 25     overlapping of tiles.

30      Currently, images stored for presentation on different devices within the same system may use OPI (Open PrePress Interface) technology or FlashPix technology. OPI is

primarily utilized in printing and FlashPIX, jointly developed by Kodak™, Hewlett-Packard Company™, Live Picture, Inc.™ and Microsoft™, is a multi-resolution, tiled file format that stores images at different resolutions. In 5 both cases images are stored in full (i.e., not broken into tiles and each tile stored separately) and the main purpose is to store the images in different resolutions. Since the images are not divided into units, and non-image data is not supported, both FlashPix and OPI technology are generally 10 limited to image files.

Processing power needs to be invoked in an output device (which may not have much processing power) at presentation time. Utilizing a presentation device efficiently requires adequate processing power for each job sent to the device. Accordingly, what is needed is a system and method that allows stored documents to be presented on a variety of output devices with a reduced requirement for processing resources. Additionally, what is needed is a method and system that reduces presentation time of stored documents. Further, what is needed is a system and method that provides a more efficient use of computing resources.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

It is therefore one object of the present invention to provide a method and system that will reduce the time between a document request and presentation of the document.

5 It is another object of the present invention to provide a method and system for providing a more efficient use of processing power in a data processing system.

10 It is yet another object of the present invention to provide a method and apparatus for maximizing the achievable output quality when output objects are stored in a persistent storage.

The foregoing objects are achieved as is now described. A method and system for storing data in multiple formats based on the nature of the data and the characteristics of the possible output devices are disclosed. The disclosed invention, when coupled with a data processing system and multiple presentation devices, is designed to minimize processing requirements and processing time while maximizing output quality. The data processing system includes a central processing unit, memory, at least one output device, and a user input device. The method and system provide outputting of a data set to a physical output device such as a display, a printer, a fax, or a logical output device such as an email generator or any other data processing system. 25 In implementing the improved method and system for improving the data set presentation process a data set is broken into objects and further into units so that each unit within an object contains a similar data type. Units that require less processing power for presentation are stored in a device-independent format. Units that require more 30 processing power for presentation are stored in device-independent format and device dependent format determined by the presentation parameters of an attached peripheral

5

presentation device. At presentation time a document database, or storage area, assembles the document from the units determined by the presentation device. The Document is composed of data that is specific for the presentation device or data that is device independent.

The above as well as additional objects, features, and advantages of the present invention will become apparent in the following detailed written description.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The novel features believed characteristic of the invention are set forth in the appended claims. The invention itself however, as well as a preferred mode of use, further objects and advantages thereof, will best be understood by reference to the following detailed description of an illustrative embodiment when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

10 **Figure 1** depicts a high-level block diagram of a data processing system in which a preferred embodiment of the present invention may be implemented;

**Figure 2** depicts a high-level block diagram of the data processing system utilizing a document process in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention; and

**Figure 3** illustrates a high-level flow diagram of a process for improving processing requirements and processing time for document presentation in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT**

Referring now to the figures, and in particular to **Figure 1**, a network data processing system, in which the present invention can be employed is depicted. As shown 5 data processing system **100** comprises a number of components, which are interconnected together through a basic network. Server **102**, computer system **105**, printer **110**, display **104** are connected to form a rudimentary network wherein server **102** serves printer **110** and computer system **105**. More 10 particularly, computer system **105** is coupled to and can drive optional monitor **104** (such as a conventional video display). Computer system **105** can be optionally coupled to input devices such as keyboard **106** or mouse **108**. Mouse **108** includes right and left buttons (not shown). An optional 15 output device, such as printer **110**, also can be connected to computer system **105**. Finally, computer system **105** may include one or more mass storage devices such as diskette drive **112**.

Computer system **105** responds to input devices, such as keyboard **106**, mouse **108**, or local area networking 20 interfaces. Additionally, input/output (I/O) devices, such as floppy diskette drive **112**, display **104**, printer **110**, and local area network communication system (not shown) are connected to computer system **105** in a manner well known. Of 25 course, those skilled in the art are aware that other conventional components also can be connected to the computer system **105** for interaction therewith. In accordance with the present invention, computer system **105** includes a system processor that is interconnected to a

random access memory (RAM), a read only memory (ROM), and a plurality of I/O devices.

Specifically, computer system 105 may be implemented utilizing any suitable computer such as the IBM PS/2 computer or an IBM RISC SYSTEM/6000 computer, both products of International Business Machines Corporation, located in Armonk, N.Y. "RISC SYSTEM/6000" is a trademark of International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) and "PS/2" is a registered trademark of IBM.

Referring to **Figure 2**, a high-level block diagram of the data processing system utilizing a document process in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention, is depicted. Document 202 is scanned and separated into objects by de-composer 211, as is common in modern datastream architectures, such as Mixed Object: Document Content Architecture (MO:DCA<sup>TM</sup>), a product of IBM. The complete document is broken down into objects with fixed 204 representing a block of text on the document, pie chart 206 representing a vector graphics object and object 207 representing and arbitrary object that is composed of tiles 208 - 210. For this example, the document is stored in CIELab format. CIELab color gets its name from a color space that uses three values to describe the precise three-dimensional location of a color inside a visible color space. CIE stands for Commission Internationale de l'Eclairage an international body of color scientists whose standards make it possible to communicate color information accurately. **L** describes relative lightness; **A** represents relative redness-greenness, and **B** represents relative yellowness-blueness.

Each tile in the source document is preferably specified in device-independent format. For example, if the tiles are part of an image object, the color is specified in a device-independent color space such as CIELab. However, to optimize presentation speed, each tile is regenerated in a number of device-specific formats that are tuned to the various output devices on the system. A system that is required to present documents on display screen 222, print documents on a full-color CMYK printer and proof documents on a monochrome printer might generate every color image tile in three additional device-dependent formats: 24 bit RGB at 72 dots per inch for the display; 32 bit CMYK at 300 dpi for the color printer and 1 bit bi-level at 600 dpi for the monochrome proofing printer. This relieves the output device from having to spend processing power and time to convert the tiles to device-specific format.

Object 207 is divided into tiles that become storage units. Each tile is encoded using the device independent format (e.g., CIELab data) and in device specific formats. A system that is required to present documents on display screen 222, print the documents on a 32 bit CMYK printer or on a bilevel proof printer might keep every color image tile in four formats: 24 bit CIELab, 24 bit RGB, 32 bit CMYK and bilevel. CMYK and bilevel tiles would be generated for the particular printers used, since both conversion to CMYK and halftoning to bilevel are heavily device dependent.

Document 202 is broken down into objects for storage and transmitted to a storage medium, in this instance a database residing on a server in the system. Transformers 214 is logic on the system that stores the objects in the proper and efficient format. Like objects (common format) are stored with like objects in the database. At

presentation time, server 216 receives a request to print document 202 to a particular printer (printer 1 218) and at the same time display document 202 on display 222. If Printer 1 218 is a full-color, 300 dpi CMYK printer, any objects or tiles that require intensive computation to convert from device-independent format, such as CIELab raster image tiles, are sent to the printer in the previously generated device-dependent format. Objects that are transformed easily into printer format, such as color text, are sent to the printer in device-independent format. Similar processing occurs for the display, except in this case, the device-dependent format for raster image tiles is 24 bit RGB at 72 dpi. Database 212 assembles the document from the stored units (tiles) based on the requirements of the presentation device (printer and display). The document received by the particular device is composed of data that is either specific for that device or device independent, but easy to convert to device specific form.

Referring to **Figure 3**, a high-level flow diagram of a process for improving processing requirements and processing time for document presentation in accordance with a preferred embodiment of the present invention, is illustrated. The process is divided into two stages: a first stage that processes and stores each document in the system (comprising steps 300 - 308) and a second stage that serves the stored document to receivers such as printers and displays (comprising steps 309 - 318).

The process begins with step 300, which depicts analyzing a document received by the system to determine possible recipient devices present and available on the system. It is important to note that possible output

devices may vary from document to document. The process proceeds to step 301, which illustrates analyzing the format of the document. The step then passes to step 302, which depicts parsing the document into objects. Next, the process moves to step 303, which illustrates dividing each object into component units. For example, if the object is an image each data unit could be a tile.

The process continues with step 304, which depicts storing the component units in device-independent format to preserve unit information. The process next proceeds to step 305, which illustrates a determination of whether the possible recipients of the document are known devices. If the possible recipients of the document are not known devices, the process passes to step 309, terminating the first stage. If the recipients of the document are known devices the process instead proceeds to step 306, which depicts a determination of whether a priori mode should be utilized. In a priori mode, the device-dependent formats are computed in advance for selected known output devices (recipients). If the determination is made that the a priori mode is not utilized, the process passes to step 309, terminating the first stage. If the determination is made that the a priori mode is utilized, the process instead proceeds to step 307, which depicts a determination of whether the unit data type is complex.

If the determination is made that the unit data type is not complex, the process proceeds to step 309, which illustrates beginning the second stage. Units classified as "not complex" are data types that do not require intensive processing for generation of the device-specific format. An example would be text designed to be printed as black. If

the determination is made that the unit data type is complex, the process then proceeds to step 308, which depicts generating and storing device-dependent formats for each selected device in the system. Note that selected devices may vary for different data types in the same system since a data type may be complex for some device types and not complex for others. The range of devices is a subset of the devices determined to be on the system in step 300.

The process continues with step 309, which illustrates receiving a request for a particular document. The process then proceeds to step 310, which depicts a determination of whether the targeted recipient device is known. The device is "known" if its device-dependent data formats are known. If the determination is made that the device is not known, the process passes to step 317, which illustrates sending the unit data in device independent format to a receiving device such as a printer or display. The process continues to step 318, which depicts the receiving device receiving and processing the data.

Returning to step 310, if the determination is made that the device is known, the process instead passes to step 311, which illustrates determining whether the data is a complex data unit. If the determination is made that the unit of data is not complex for the target output device, the process passes to step 317, which illustrates sending the unit data in device independent format to a receiving device such as a printer or display. The process continues to step 318, which depicts the receiving device receiving and processing the data. If the determination is made that the unit is complex for the target device, the process continues to step 312, which illustrates a determination of

whether the unit is stored in device-dependent format for the target device. If the determination is made that the unit is stored in device-dependent format, the process proceeds to step 316, which depicts sending the unit to the target device in device-dependent format. If the determination is made that the unit is stored in device-independent rather than device-dependent format, the process proceeds instead to step 313, which illustrates the system generating device-dependent format from the device-independent format. As detailed above, device-independent format is always available as it has been stored in that format to preserve all the information (see step 304).

The process then passes to step 314, which depicts a determination of whether the data should be saved for later re-use. Different rules may be formulated to determine caching such as a likelihood that this unit will be requested again by the target receiving device or the storage capacity, usage and processing required to generate the device-dependent format. If the determination is made that the device-dependent format is not to be cached, the process passes to step 316, which illustrates sending the unit in the device dependent format to the target receiving device. If the determination is made that the device-dependent unit is to be cached, the process instead moves to step 315, which depicts the unit being stored in device-dependent format. The process then proceeds to step 316, which illustrates sending the unit, in device-dependent format, to the target receiving device. The process then passes to step 318 which depicts the target receiving device receiving and processing the unit data for presentation

Once the document or data set is divided into units, the question is how much processing power is required to convert a unit (of the document) from device-independent format to device-dependent format. The present invention precludes the need to invoke significant processing power in the presentation (output) device at presentation time. The present invention invokes the processing power in the server before presentation time.

This invention is described in a preferred embodiment in the following description with reference to the figures, in which like numbers represent the same or similar elements. While this invention is described in terms of the best mode for achieving this invention's objectives, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that variations may be accomplished in view of these teachings without deviating from the spirit or scope of the present invention. For example, the present invention may be implemented using any combination of computer programming software, firmware or hardware. As a preparatory step to practicing the invention or constructing an apparatus according to the invention, the computer programming code (whether software or firmware) according to the invention will typically be stored in one or more machine readable storage mediums such as fixed (hard) drives, diskettes, optical disks, magnetic tape, semiconductor memories such as ROMs, PROMs, etc., thereby making an article of manufacture in accordance with the invention. The article of manufacture containing the computer programming code is used by either executing the code directly from the storage device, by copying the code from the storage device into another storage device such as a hard disk, RAM, etc. or by transmitting the code on a network for remote execution. The method form of the invention may be practiced by combining one or more machine

5 readable storage devices containing the code according to the present invention with appropriate standard computer hardware to execute the code contained therein. An apparatus for practicing the invention could be one or more computers and storage systems containing or having network access to computer program(s) coded in accordance with the invention.

10 While the invention has been particularly shown and described with reference to a preferred embodiment, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes in form and detail may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

## CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. In a data processing system having a central processing  
2 unit, memory, at least one user output device, and a user  
3 input device, a method for retrieving and presenting stored  
4 documents on a plurality of output devices each requiring  
5 different presentation parameters, comprising the steps of:

6 parsing a document into one or more objects;

7 parsing each object into one or more units;

8 storing said units according to processing requirements  
9 of each said unit;

10 classifying connected presentation devices;

11 receiving a request from a said presentation device;

12 assembling said document from said stored units; and

13 sending said assembled document to said presentation  
14 device.

1. The method of claim 1, wherein parsing each object into  
2 one or more units, further comprises:

3 determining type of each said unit.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein storing said units  
3 according to processing requirements of each said unit,  
4 further comprise:

5 storing said units, requiring less processing to  
6 convert to device-dependent format, in device-independent  
7 format; and

8 storing said units, requiring more processing to  
9 convert to device-dependent format, in device-dependent  
format.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein classifying said

2 connected presentation devices, further comprise:  
3       determining acceptable document formats for said  
4 connected presentation devices; and  
5       classifying said devices according to device-dependent  
6 characteristics

1       5. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving a request from  
2 said connected presentation device for said target document,  
3 further comprises:

4       determining whether said peripheral device is known or  
5 unknown.

1       6. In a data processing system having a central processing  
2       unit, memory, at least one user output device, and a user  
3       input device, a system for retrieving and presenting stored  
4       documents on a plurality of output devices each requiring  
5       different presentation parameters, comprising:

6               logic means for parsing a document into one or more  
7       objects;

8               means for parsing each object into one or more  
9       units;

10              storage means for storing said units according to  
11       processing requirements of each said unit;

12              discrimination means for classifying connected  
13       presentation devices;

14              receiving means for receiving a request from said  
15       presentation devices;

16              logic means for assembling said document from said  
17       stored units; and

18              transmitting means for sending said assembled document  
19       to said presentation device.

20       7. The system of claim 6, wherein logic means for parsing  
21       each object into one or more units, further comprises:

22              comparison means for determining type of each said  
23       unit.

24       8. The system of claim 6, wherein storage means for  
25       storing said units according to processing requirements of  
26       each said unit, further comprise:

27              means for storing said units, requiring less processing  
28       to convert to device-dependent format, in device-independent  
29       format; and

30              means for storing said units, requiring more processing

8 to convert to device-dependent format, in device-dependent  
9 format.

1 9. The system of claim 6, wherein discrimination means for  
2 classifying said connected presentation devices, further  
3 comprise:

4 comparison means for determining acceptable document  
5 formats for said connected presentation devices; and

6 classification means for classifying said devices  
7 according to device-dependent characteristics

1 10. The system of claim 6, wherein receiving means for  
2 receiving a request from said connected presentation device  
3 for said target document, further comprises:

4 means for determining whether said peripheral device is  
known or unknown.

1       11. In a data processing system having a central processing  
2       unit, memory, at least one user output device, and a user  
3       input device, a computer program product within a computer  
4       readable medium having instructions for retrieving and  
5       presenting stored documents on a plurality of output devices  
6       each requiring different presentation parameters, comprising  
7       the steps of:

8               instructions within said computer program product for  
9       parsing a document into one or more objects; and

10              instructions within said computer program product  
11       for parsing each object into one or more units;

12              instructions within said computer program product for  
13       storing said units according to processing requirements of  
14       each said unit;

15              instructions within said computer program product for  
16       classifying connected presentation devices;

17              instructions within said computer program product for  
18       receiving a request from a said presentation device;

19              instructions within said computer program product for  
20       assembling said document from said stored units; and

21              instructions within said computer program product for  
22       sending said assembled document to said presentation device.

1       12. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein  
2       instructions for parsing each object into one or more units,  
3       further comprises:

4              instructions within said computer program product for  
5       determining type of each said unit.

1       13. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein  
2       instructions for storing said units according to processing  
3       requirements of each said unit, further comprises:

4              instructions within said computer program product for

5       storing said units, requiring less processing to convert to  
6       device-dependent format , in device-independent format; and  
7               instructions within said computer program product for  
8       storing said units, requiring more processing to convert to  
9       device-dependent format, in device-dependent format.

1       14. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein  
2       instructions for classifying said connected presentation  
3       devices, further comprises:

4               instructions within said computer program product for  
5       determining acceptable document formats for said connected  
6       presentation devices; and

7               instructions within said computer program product for  
8       classifying said devices according to device-dependent  
9       characteristics.

1       15. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein  
2       instructions for receiving a request from said connected  
3       presentation device for said target document, further  
4       comprises:

5               instructions within said computer program product for  
6       determining whether said peripheral device is known or  
7       unknown.

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**  
**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MULTI-FORMAT**  
**STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL**

A method and system for storing data in multiple formats based on the nature of the data and the characteristics of the possible output devices are disclosed. The disclosed invention, when coupled with a data processing system and multiple presentation devices, is designed to minimize processing requirements and processing time while maximizing output quality. The data processing system includes a central processing unit, memory, at least one output device, and a user input device. The method and system provide outputting of a data set to a physical output device such as a display, a printer, a fax, or a logical output device such as an email generator or any other data processing system. In implementing the improved method and system for improving the data set presentation process a data set is broken into objects and further into units so that each unit within an object contains a similar data type. Units that require less processing power for presentation are stored in a device-independent format. Units that require more processing power for presentation are stored in device-independent format and device dependent format determined by the presentation parameters of an attached peripheral presentation device. At presentation time a document database, or storage area, assembles the document from the units determined by the presentation device. The document is composed of data that is specific for the presentation device or data that is device independent.

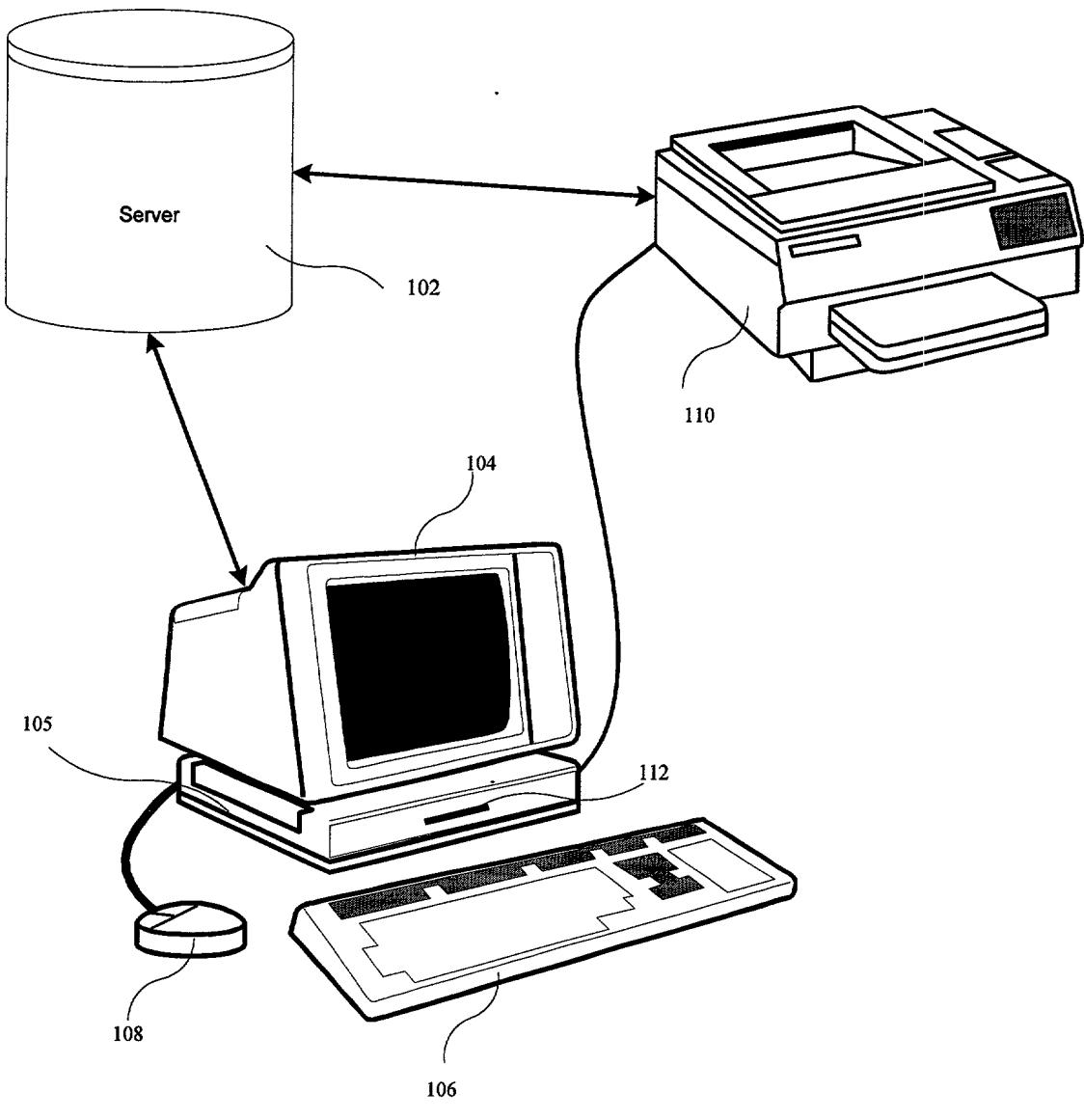
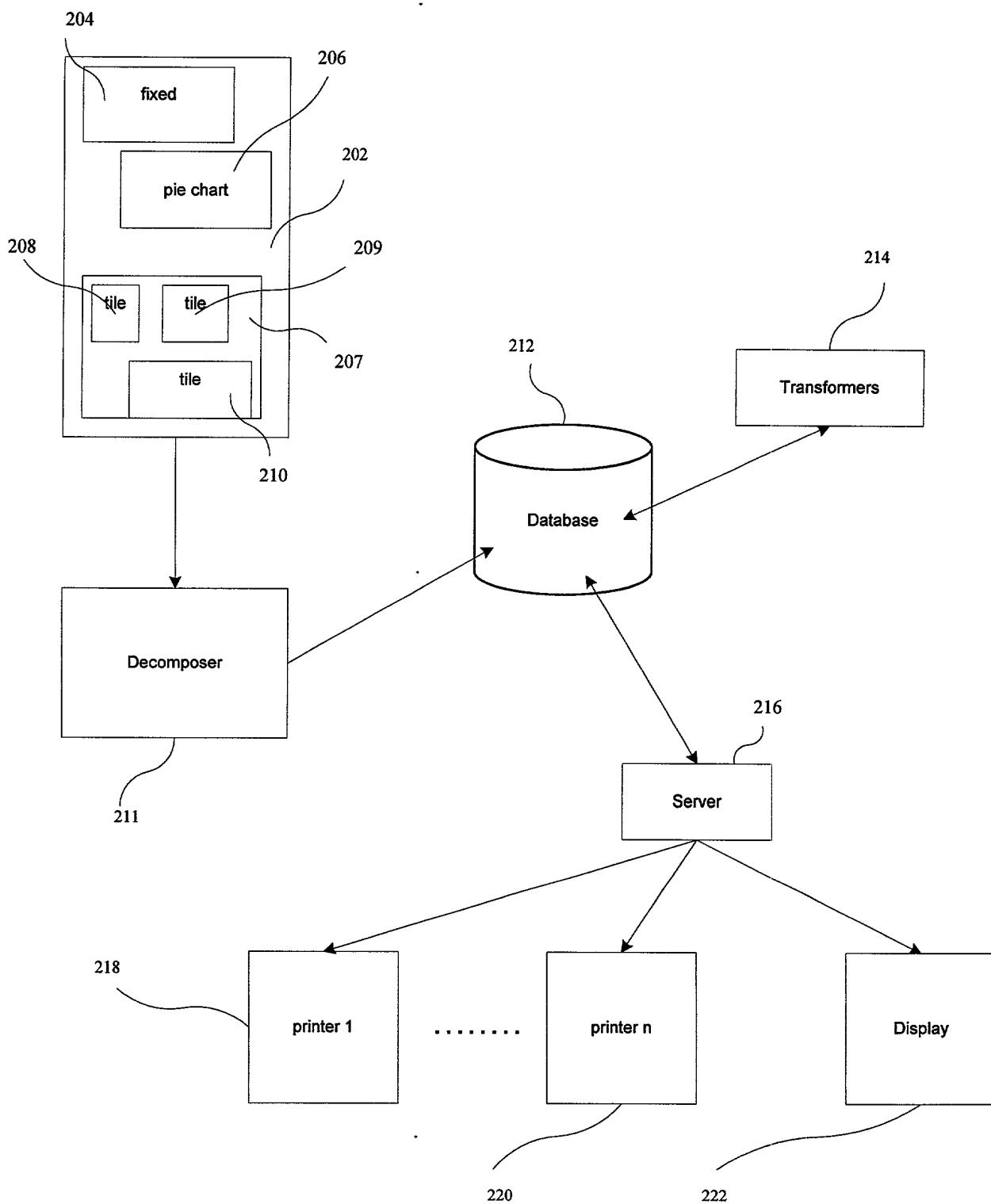


FIGURE 1



## FIGURE 2

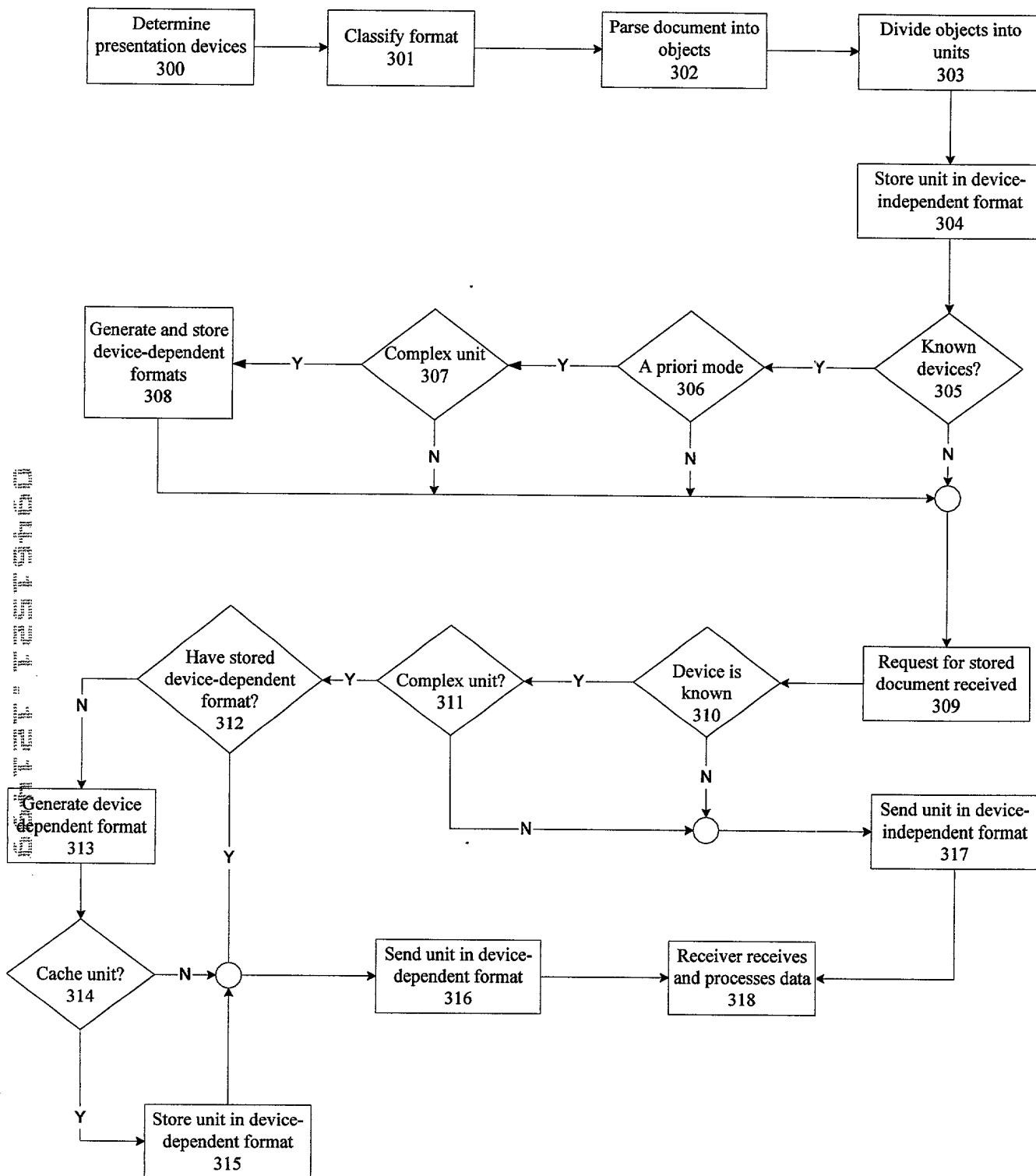


FIGURE 3

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR  
PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MULTIFORMAT STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL

the specification of which (check one)

X is attached hereto.

— was filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
as Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_  
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s):

Priority Claimed

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Number) \_\_\_\_\_ (Country) \_\_\_\_\_ (Day/Month/Year) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to the patentability of this application as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Application Serial #) \_\_\_\_\_ (Filing Date) \_\_\_\_\_ (Status) \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Philip R. Wadsworth, Reg. No. 29,219; Douglas R. Millett, Reg. No. 31,784; Noreen A. Krall, Reg. No. 39,734; Paik Saber, Reg. No. 37,494; G. Marlin Knight, Reg. No. 33,409; Robert B. Martin, Reg. No. 26,945; Christopher A. Hughes, Reg. No. 26,914; Edward A. Pennington, Reg. No. 32,588; John E. Hoel, Reg. No. 26,279; Joseph C. Redmond, Jr., Reg. No. 18,753; Andrew Mitchell Harris, Reg. No. 42,638; Richard N. McCain, Reg. No. 43,785; Randall J. Bluestone, Reg. No. 40,518; Joseph F. Villella, Reg. No. 30,599; Matthew W. Baca, Reg. No. 42,277; Max Ciccarelli, Reg. No. 39,454; Andrew J. Dillon, Reg. No. 29,634; Justin M. Dillon, Reg. No. 42,486; John G. Graham, Reg. No. 19,563; Jack V. Musgrove, Reg. No. 31,986; Antony P. Ng, Reg. No. 43,427; Brian F. Russell, Reg. No. 40,796; Daniel E. Venglarik, Reg. No. 39,409; Matthew S. Anderson, Reg. No. 39,093; and Mike Noe, Reg. No. P-44,975.

Send correspondence to: Andrew J. Dillon, FELSMAN, BRADLEY, VALEN, GUNTER & DILLON, LLP, Lakewood on the Park, Suite 350, 7600B North Capital of Texas Highway, Austin, Texas 78731, and direct all telephone calls to Andrew J. Dillon, 512/343-6116.

FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: Reinhard Heinrich Hohensee

INVENTORS SIGNATURE: Reinhard Heinrich Hohensee DATE: December 8, 1999

RESIDENCE: 3895 Norwood Court  
Boulder, Colorado 80304

CITIZENSHIP: U.S.A.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS: 3895 Norwood Court  
Boulder, Colorado 80304

FULL NAME OF SOLE OR SECOND INVENTOR: Dwight Ross Palmer

INVENTORS SIGNATURE: Dwight Ross Palmer DATE: December 8, 1999

RESIDENCE: 2456 Mapleton Circle  
Longmont, Colorado 80503

CITIZENSHIP: U.S.A.

POST OFFICE ADDRESS: 2456 Mapleton Circle  
Longmont, Colorado 80503

DOCKET NUMBER: BO9-99-013

FULL NAME OF SOLE OF THIRD INVENTOR: Nenad Rijavec

INVENTORS SIGNATURE: Robert W. Price DATE: 12/18/1989

RESIDENCE: 709 Buchanan Lane  
Longmont, Colorado 80501

**CITIZENSHIP:** Croatia

POST OFFICE ADDRESS: 709 Buchanan Lane  
Longmont, Colorado 80501